

## **2009/2010 Ontario Workshop - Questions and Answers**

<b>QUESTIONS</b>	<b>ANSWERS</b>
1. Would billboards or public service announcements (PSA) be an eligible activity under a ground operations project if the subject of the billboard or PSA was responsible OHV use and land stewardship ethics?	No, those activities would be eligible as part of an OHV Education project, not a ground operations project.
2. Could an applicant apply for a ground operations grant to fund a highway billboard to have users “stay on trail”?	No, a highway billboard would not be an eligible cost under a ground operations project. The highway billboard identified in the question would be eligible under an OHV Education project.
3. Will the OHMVR Division be updating/improving the OLGA software program in the foreseeable future and if so will you solicit suggestions from stakeholders?	<p>Although the Division is not currently working on changes to OLGA, the Division always welcomes suggestions on OLGA improvements from applicants and stakeholders. Comments can be emailed to: <a href="mailto:ohvinfo@parks.ca.gov">ohvinfo@parks.ca.gov</a>.</p> <p>Typically changes to OLGA are the result of changes to the program regulations. Changes to the program regulations involve a public review process that includes soliciting suggestions from applicants and stakeholders.</p>
4. Can restoration funds be utilized to restore damage to private lands caused by illegal/unauthorized OHV use?	The lands identified in the question may or may not be eligible for Restoration funding. More information (i.e. nexus to OHV Opportunities, habitat damaged, etc.) is needed for a case by case determination.
5. Would the cost of entitlements (planning and environmental documents for local land use approval) be a legitimate cost under an acquisition grant?	In certain circumstances, yes. Project costs for CEQA/NEPA analysis can be eligible under a phased acquisition project, if the goal of the project is to acquire land for OHV Recreation purposes. A phased project is a project that requests funding for both CEQA and/or NEPA analysis and actual project deliverables under one project. The other activities identified in the question would need to be applied for under a planning grant.

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<p>6. Can restoration funding be used to restore/rehabilitate non-motorized single track trails that have been damaged by illegal OHV use? Example: Giant Sequoia National Monument prohibits OHV use; OHVs are illegally using and damaging hiking and equestrian trails.</p>	<p>No. Restoration funding is used to provide Ecological Restoration or Repair to <u>habitat</u> damaged by authorized or unauthorized OHV use. The recreational trails identified in the question would not be eligible for restoration funding to repair damage caused by OHV use, because the trails themselves are not habitat.</p> <p>If there is habitat surrounding the trails identified in the question and the habitat had been damaged by OHV use, then the repair of that habitat would be an eligible activity under an OHV Restoration grant.</p>
<p>7. A proposed project contains some ground disturbing activities, but those ground disturbing activities are being paid through the match and not through the grant. Would this project require a HMP or soil conservation plan?</p>	<p>Yes. If a proposed project contains any ground disturbing activities, grant or match funded, then a soil conservation plan and HMP covering the Project Area would be required.</p>
<p>8. Would rehabilitation of outbuildings that support OHV Recreation be considered a Development project? If the rehabilitation would disturb soil would a soil conservation plan be required?</p>	<p>Yes, to both questions. The rehabilitation of the facility identified in the question would be an eligible activity under an OHV Development grant. If the rehabilitation activities involved ground disturbance then the application would require a soil conservation plan for the project area.</p>
<p>9. What do you mean by "Other Federal Agencies" as an eligible applicant?</p>	<p>Other federal agencies are agencies of the federal government other than the US Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management. One example would be the National Park Service.</p>
<p>10. What is the documentation requirement for Indirect Costs? Are these auditable?</p>	<p>Indirect Costs are defined for the OHV program as; <i>"Indirect Costs" means expenses incurred for the management and administration of a project, which by their nature cannot be readily identified and directly charged to a project (e.g., utility costs, accounting services, contract administration, postage, management personnel, telephone bills, etc.)</i></p> <p>The applicant is allowed an Indirect Cost allowance equivalent to 10% of the grant request amount. There is no documentation requirement for this 10% allowance, for administration or audit purposes.</p>

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<p>11. For a County Sheriff's Department, the lead OHV team applies for an OHV Law Enforcement grant. Within the same department are smaller, "station level" OHV teams. Can those smaller "station level" teams apply for grant funds without affecting the lead OHV team's Grant funds?</p>	<p>No. For a County Sheriff's Department, the "Department" level is considered the applicant. The Sheriff's Department could elect to have multiple projects within the one application, (i.e. one project each for the lead team and the smaller "station level" teams). The \$10,000 base funding per applicant would be divided amongst all the projects.</p>
<p>12. For a city park and rec. department applying to acquire BLM lands, through the "Recreation and Public Purposes Act", for OHV Recreation purposes: Can the city park and rec. department apply for funding through an acquisition grant or a planning grant?</p> <p>Can the acquisition grant pay for the lease of lands?</p> <p>Could a planning grant help pay for CEQA analysis or to assist the BLM in processing costs associated the transaction?</p>	<p>Yes, the city park and rec. department would be eligible to apply for an acquisition grant or a planning grant to help pay for the activities identified in the question.</p> <p>Yes. An eligible cost under an acquisition grant would be lease of lands for OHV Recreation purposes, for at least 25 years.</p> <p>Yes, the CEQA analysis identified in the last part of the question would be an eligible cost under a planning grant. Transaction processing costs that are to be borne by the city, however, are eligible as part of the acquisition project costs.</p>
<p>13. A nonprofit applicant currently conducts a monthly, publicly noticed meeting of stakeholders and interested parties. Would the agenda of this publicly noticed meeting satisfy the public notice requirement? This meeting would also be used to solicit public comment on the applications.</p>	<p>Yes, under the conditions the applicant would need to publish on its website and/or newsletter instructions for accessing the division website for public review and comment. Also the applicant is required to email and/or mail notice to interested parties regarding the same. If the agenda mentioned in the question accomplishes these requirements, then the public notice requirement would be satisfied.</p>
<p>14. An applicant is receiving partial project funding for a restoration project from the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS). Can the applicant apply for funding from an OHV restoration grant to pay for the balance of the project costs and utilize the funding from the NRCS as the 25% match?</p>	<p>As long as the proposed project relates to OHV recreation and is repairing habitat damaged by OHV recreation, then the applicant can apply for restoration funding and utilize the NRCS funding as match.</p>